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## **CLAIMS**

- 5 1. Use of a chemical substance selected from the group consisting of N-[2-hydroxy-3-(1-piperidinyl)-propoxy]-pyridine-1-oxide-3-carboximidoyl chloride, an optically active enantiomer or mixture of enantiomers thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the racemic or optically active compound in the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for the treatment or prevention of neurodegenerative diseases.
  - 2. An use as claimed in claim 1 wherein the chemical substance is (+)-R-N-[2-hydroxy-3-(1-piperidinyl)-propoxy]-pyridine-1-oxide-3-carboximidoyl chloride.
  - 3. An use as claimed in claim 2 wherein the chemical substance is a salt of (+)-R-N-[2-hydroxy-3-(1-piperidinyl)-propoxy]-pyridine-1-oxide-3-carboximidoyl chloride.
- 4. An use as claimed in claim 3 wherein the chemical substance is (+)-R- N- [2-hydroxy-3-(1-piperidinyl)-propoxy]-pyridine-1-oxide-3-carboximidoyl chloride citrate.
- 5. An use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 wherein the neurodegenerative disease is amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.
  - 6. Method of treatment or prevention of a neurodegenerative disease wherein a therapeutically effective amount of a chemical substance selected from the group consisting of N-[2-hydroxy-3-(1-piperidinyl)-propoxy]-pyridine-1-oxide-3-carboximidoyl chloride, an optically active enantiomer or mixture of

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enantiomers thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the racemic or optically active compound is administered to a patient.

- 7. A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the chemical substance is (+)-R-N-[2-hydroxy-3-(1-piperidinyl)-propoxy]-pyridine-1-oxide-3-carboximidoyl chloride.
- 8. A method as claimed in claim 7 wherein the chemical substance is a salt of (+)-R-N-[2-hydroxy-3-(1-piperidinyl)-propoxy]-pyridine-1-oxide-3-carbox-imidoyl chloride.
  - 9. A method as claimed in claim 8 wherein the chemical substance is (+)-R-N-[2-hydroxy-3-(1-piperidinyl)-propoxy]-pyridine-1-oxide-3-carboximidoyl chloride citrate.

10. A method as claimed in any of claims 6 to 9 wherein the neurodegenerative disease is amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

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